

BASEBALL CONFERENCE ASSURED FOR FRIDAY

Ban Johnson Agrees to Meet National Committee.

ARRANGEMENTS COMPLETED

Hanlon Denies He Has a Franchise for a Baltimore Team Yet—McLeod Agrees to Meet "Butcher Boy."

After much quibbling by the heads of the two major baseball leagues, and a postponement of the conference, which was set for last Monday in Cincinnati, Byron Bancroft Johnson, president of the American League, announced last night in Chicago that he had agreed to hold the session in Cincinnati tomorrow night. Now that a peace conference between committees representing the American and National Leagues is assured, the lovers of the game anxiously await the result of the meeting and are very solicitous of knowing everything that is said and done.

Ever since Johnson called off the meeting, which was set for Monday night, the National League folks have been keeping the wires hot and sending him numerous letters. Wednesday he received a missive from President Garry Herrmann, of the Cincinnati club of the National League, and the chairman of the committee of that organization. After reading the letter and consulting a friend, Johnson made the announcement that on Friday night he would be ready to talk business with the National League representatives.

Herrmann's letter was a reply to one sent by Johnson last Monday, the day the peace conference should have been held. Johnson called that meeting off because he suspected underhand dealings, and believed that the National League committee had no authority to represent the league. He wrote a letter to Herrmann and informed him of the fact, and the latter's answer evidently satisfied Ban, and he agreed to call the meeting. Ban refused to disclose the contents of the missive, but stated, after reading it, that the conference was now assured, and that it would be held in Cincinnati tomorrow night.

Johnson, together with Charles Comiskey, president of the Chicago American League team, and Henry Killilea, owner of the Boston club, who is residing in Milwaukee, will leave Chicago tonight to go to the scene of the joint session. Charles W. Somers, the fourth member of the American League committee, will leave Cleveland tomorrow afternoon and arrive in Cincinnati in time to attend the meeting.

The National League committee, composed of Frank Robinson, James Hart, President Herrmann, and a fourth member, who as yet has not been chosen, will arrive in Cincinnati tomorrow morning. President Herrmann, who has been most instrumental in bringing about the peace conference, has informed all of the national committees of the meeting.

The conference is held in Cincinnati in deference to Mr. Herrmann, in recognition of his efforts in bringing the two leagues together.

Manager Ed Hanlon, of the Brooklyn National League Club, who recently purchased the American League ball park in Baltimore, denied last night that he had any "particular" franchise for a baseball club in the Monumental City. He declared that until he did get one he would not be in a position to form a company to continue professional ball in that city.

Moses Frank, Miles Brinkley and others have been mentioned as possible stockholders in the new company, which is to be formed, but the baseball lovers of Baltimore have Hanlon's word that the company has not yet been formed, and that he alone owns the ball park. Those who know Hanlon are not of the belief that he would buy a baseball park and put it to no use. It is fair to presume that Baltimore will have a professional baseball team. Whether it will be in the National, American or "Three I" league, no one but Eddie will ever know until he sees fit to make his announcement.

The men who have been mentioned as possible stockholders were seen in Baltimore yesterday but they all kept their lips and refused to affirm or deny that they were interested in the Hanlon scheme. Meanwhile the Baltimore fans are on the anxious seat and all of them are praying, "I hope he does."

Young Muldoon, who recently met Joe Bernstein in a one-hour bout in New York and failed to throw him, endeavored to put him down in fifteen minutes at a Baltimore theater last night. He agreed to meet all comers, and offered a bonus to anyone he could not throw in a quarter of an hour. Bernstein agreed to go on, and although Young Muldoon came very near pinning his shoulders to the mat on several occasions, Joe squirmed out of the tight places and managed to stay the quarter of an hour and won the \$25 which was offered.

Bernstein was on the defensive most of the time, and although he was heavier than his opponent, the latter was on top all the while, and got the Ghetto in a number of tickling positions, but was not strong enough at the critical moment to gain a fall. These two men have wrestled a number of times, and neither one has been able to get a fall. Bad blood exists between the two, and at the conclusion of every match, without exception, Bernstein gets in a hook or a jab on his opponent's jaw. He was about to start "rough house" last night, when the police interfered and hustled him out to his dressing room.

When Joe met Muldoon in Washington last fall, he created a great deal of excitement by striking him in the mouth with his fist. The police interfered then,

and it was only strategy that enabled Muldoon to get from the theater to his hotel without having to "jostle with Joe."

According to reports which have been circulated, Fred Gebhard will next season take his old-time place among the operators of steeplechase stables on the metropolitan circuit. He has laid his plans to campaign an entirely new string of jumpers.

To that end he has done a little retraining and auctioneering and gone on the hunt for fast jumpers. His old cross-country champion Ollido has been retired, and Perion, the gelding by Sailor Prince, which bore Gebhard's colors so creditably in 1901, but who was a failure last season, has been sold. Several other changes have been made in the stable.

E. E. Smathers of the New York Driving Club has announced that he is out for the championship. He said yesterday that he would drive Lord Derby in a contest for the amateur championship under the conditions specified in the Gentlemen's Driving Club of Cleveland, which has announced that it will offer a trophy to take the place of the Boston cup.

Champion wrestler Dan McLeod, who got the decision over Tom Jenkins on Christmas Day, when the latter quit the mat, has accepted the handicap challenge from John Plenis, the New York "butcher boy" wrestler. The champion has agreed to throw Plenis twice, catch-as-catch-can style, for a purse of \$250 or \$300 a side. McLeod will have one hour in which to pin the New Yorker's shoulders to the mat on two separate occasions.

Plenis and McLeod will have a conference in New York within a day or day, and the details of the match will be arranged.

INTERIOR BOWLERS DEFEAT TREASURY

The strong interior team defeated the Treasury quint in a Departmental League bowling game last night on the Palace alleys. The bowling of the interiorites was very strong. They quit the first game with a total of 1,021 pins, one of the highest scores made this year. Had Cooper bowled in form—he made only 145—they would probably have established a new local record. In this game three men bowled over the 200 mark. Bunn had a string of 253; Garrett, 225, and Rice, 203.

Bunn was high man with an average of 207, and his 253 was easily best single. Garrett was second high man, with an average of 211, and his 225 was next high single.

Interior.	1st.	2d.	3d.	Total.
Livingston	195	201	120	516
Cooper	145	151	182	478
Garrett	225	192	185	602
Bunn	253	193	214	660
Rice	203	195	191	589
Totals	1,021	933	902	2,856
Treasury.	1st.	2d.	3d.	Total.
Leck	154	169	161	484
Rich	135	167	189	491
Buell	189	189	178	556
Elliott	157	240	148	545
Kimball	142	167	183	492
Totals	788	914	859	2,561

CHICAGO MINISTER IN FAVOR OF FOOTBALL

The Rev. Dr. J. M. Nicholson of Chicago has taken up the defense of football. Owing to the number of things that have been said about the game, the reverend thinks that it would be a good thing for the attention of the lovers of other sports to be called to the casualties in them.

"The game is a good one," said he. "Ask the writers of those anti-football articles if they ever stopped to sum up the deaths due to bicycle riding, deer hunting, boating, tennis, baseball, automobile, or any other sport indulged in to a great extent."

"A recent issue of the 'American Medical Journal' states that twenty-four deaths and seventy-eight serious accidents were due to bicycle riding in one month. How many persons were drowned at the summer resorts this last summer?"

"How many boys and men have deformed hands and internal injuries from baseball. In that very game (as some people think) game of tennis, how many people are overcome with the heat and suffer strained ankles."

"If football is played in the proper way and with a sufficient amount of training there is little danger. It is always on the teams where the boys get out for practice about twice a week that the serious accidents happen."

"Whether have our many men gone? The general public knows we have enough young men weak from tobacco and drink. Ask any coach and see if they are not willing to have 200 men out every night for practice; and your son can be one of the 200."

"Football is a game where the points of a gentleman are brought out. You see once in a while a player strike another, and the next minute you see that same player walking to the side lines and another man take his place. It is no honor to be put out."

"Let the boys play football and the girls other outdoor games. It will build up their systems, so when they enter a close room they will not contract all diseases, and if they happen to fall they will not break bones."

"If they do break a bone the recovery will be speedy. It is twice as quick in the healthy as in the sick."

McGOVERN MAY MEET AUSTIN RICE IN DETROIT

Terry McGovern is at present stopping in Detroit, where he is waiting to hear something definite from his manager, Sam Harris, in regard to his fight with "Young Corbett." The little Brooklyn fighter's next opponent will in all probability be Austin Rice, the ancient featherweight of New London, Conn. Several light promoters of Detroit are making arrangements to pull off a limited round bout between these two fighters, before the Metropolitan Athletic Club. The fight will be held about the latter part of this month or the first of next.

Matchmaker Considine is willing to put on the bout, but is waiting to receive word from Terry's manager.

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS MAY ESTABLISH CLASS

Idea Meets Favor In Pugilistic Circles.

WOULD INCLUDE LANKY BOB

Sam Fitzpatrick Bringing Australian Boxer to This Country—Toledo Preacher Praises Corbett.

Much space is just now devoted to the efforts of pugilistic managers and boxers to have a new class created, the light heavyweights. The weights, should such a class be established, would most likely range from 158 to 172 pounds. Men of that size are too heavy for the middleweight division and could not hope to tackle the big fellows. This sentiment has been gradually gaining ground for some time. Should the class come to be recognized it would contain many good men. For instance, matches might be arranged between Bob Fitzsimmons, Marvin Hart, "Kid" McCoy, "Kid" Carter, George Gardner, Jack Root and others. It would also create new interest in the sport and give the followers of the roped arena something to talk about.

Sam Fitzpatrick who brought "Kid" Lavigne to the front and did much to make the Saginaw boxer a lightweight champion at one time, will soon be back in this country, so reports have it, with a heavy-weight boxer on his staff. He is known as Australia Bill Dorothy, and hails from the country that has produced such good men as Fitzsimmons, Griffo, Creedon, and others.

It does not seem likely that Fitzpatrick has secured one as good as Lanky Bob, but he might introduce one who would give Jeffries an argument. That, of course, is if the boxer brought over has weight, is young, and possessed of science and speed.

The return of Fitzpatrick from Australia recalls the fact that many of the fighters from the land of the kangaroo who won fame and fortune here, have remained. Bob Fitzsimmons is touring in the West with Jeffries. Jim Hall is managing a boxer in Chicago; Steve O'Donnell makes his home in Boston; Jimmy Ryan is a boxing instructor at West Baden, and Billy Smith is located in Texas. Frank Slavin, who always put up a good fight, is in the Klondike; Young Griffo and George Dawson are in Chicago. William Edwards is touring the States. Creedon has returned home, as has also Young Plute, who came over to take George Dixon's scalp. Tommy Williams is at French Lick, and Billy Murphy is a railroad watchman in the West. Peter Jackson returned home to do, as did Harry Daley, who was recognized as Griffo's equal in cleverness.

There is not an Australian in the country today that could make it interesting for a champion, while a few years ago they were contenders for every honor.

The Rev. F. D. Kelsey, pastor of the Central Congregational Church of Toledo, Ohio, who appeared at the Salvation Army dinner on Christmas day with Mayor Jones and James J. Corbett, has a high opinion of "Gentleman Jim" as a man and a citizen. He recently expressed himself as follows:

"Corbett is certainly a man of fine intellect, as well as of finely developed muscle. He made one of the most sensible common-sense speeches I ever had the pleasure of listening to."

"Corbett talked right to the point, and never once wandered away from his subject. His style of speaking is a true indication of the man's character."

"He is direct in all he says. He wastes no time in beating about the bush. He lands right in the middle of his subject the first sentence he utters."

"If he fights like he talks I can well understand why he is so clever in what he term pugilistic science."

"Corbett is a man of brains. He showed good judgment in all he said. He praised the work of the Salvation Army in his own happy style, and told some good stories which fitted in perfectly, and showed his remarkably good sense."

"I enjoyed the speech, and so did every one else who heard him. Corbett, in my opinion, would make a good lawyer, as he is keen, perceptive, quick-witted and has an easy flow of words and a splendid command of language."

CORCORAN CADETS DEFEAT THE Y. M. C. A.

The Corcorans defeated the Young Men's Christian Association team in a league game of basketball last night in the National Guards' Center Market gymnasium by the score of 17 to 7.

The game was free from intentional rough play. The most noteworthy feature of the game was the goaling of Pearson, who basketed the leather four times. Two of these brought applause from the gallery. The line-up:

Corcorans.	Position.	Y. M. C. A.
Pearson	R. F.	White
Nash	L. F.	Ellis
Boyle	Center	Craig
Boyd	R. B.	Bopp
Helfner	L. B.	Gannon
Field goals—Pearson, 4; Nash, 1; Boyd, 1; White, 1; Craig, 1. Referee— Mr. Hildreth. Umpires—Messrs. Gate- man and Forrester. Timers—Messrs. Mitchell and Dowling. Scorers—Messrs. Woodhead and Hazard.		